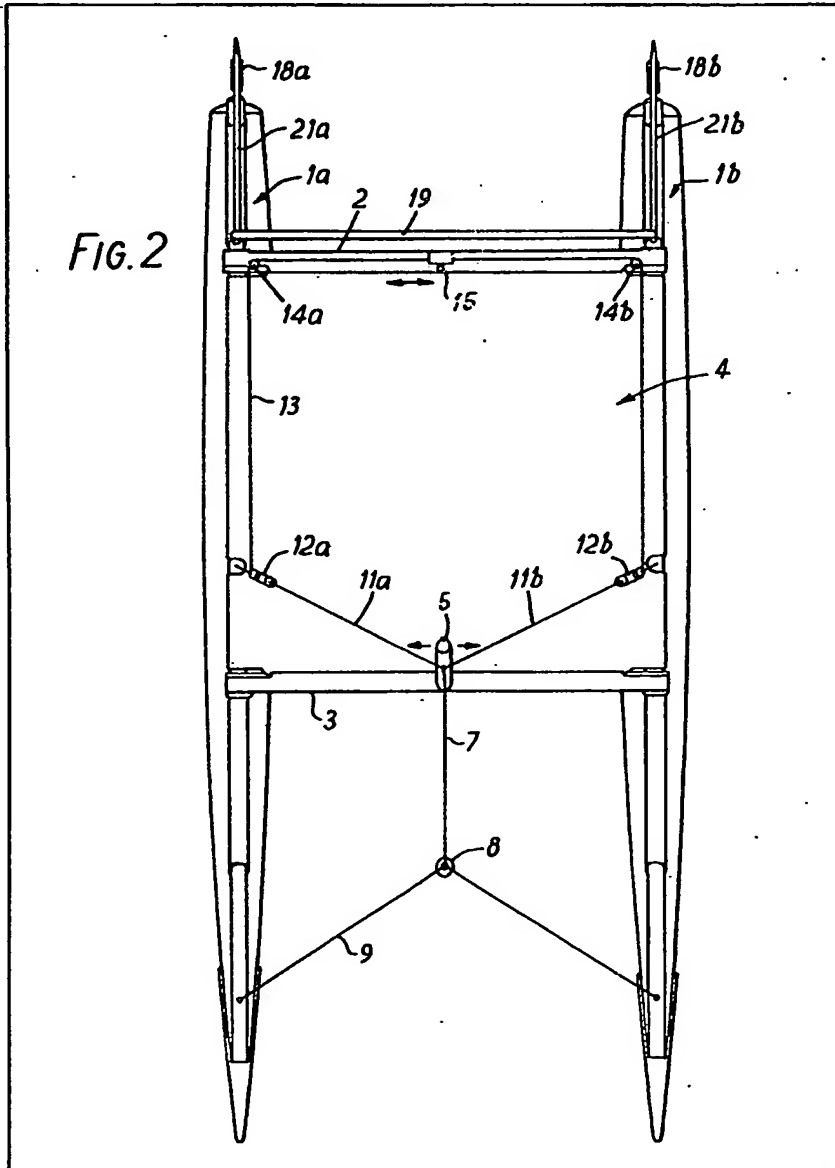


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(54) Rigging for a tilttable mast

(57) A sailing boat has a hull structure 1 on which a mast 5 is stepped by a ball and socket joint. The mast 5 is stayed by a forestay 7, 8, 9 and a pair of lateral shrouds 11 which include block and tackle assemblies 12

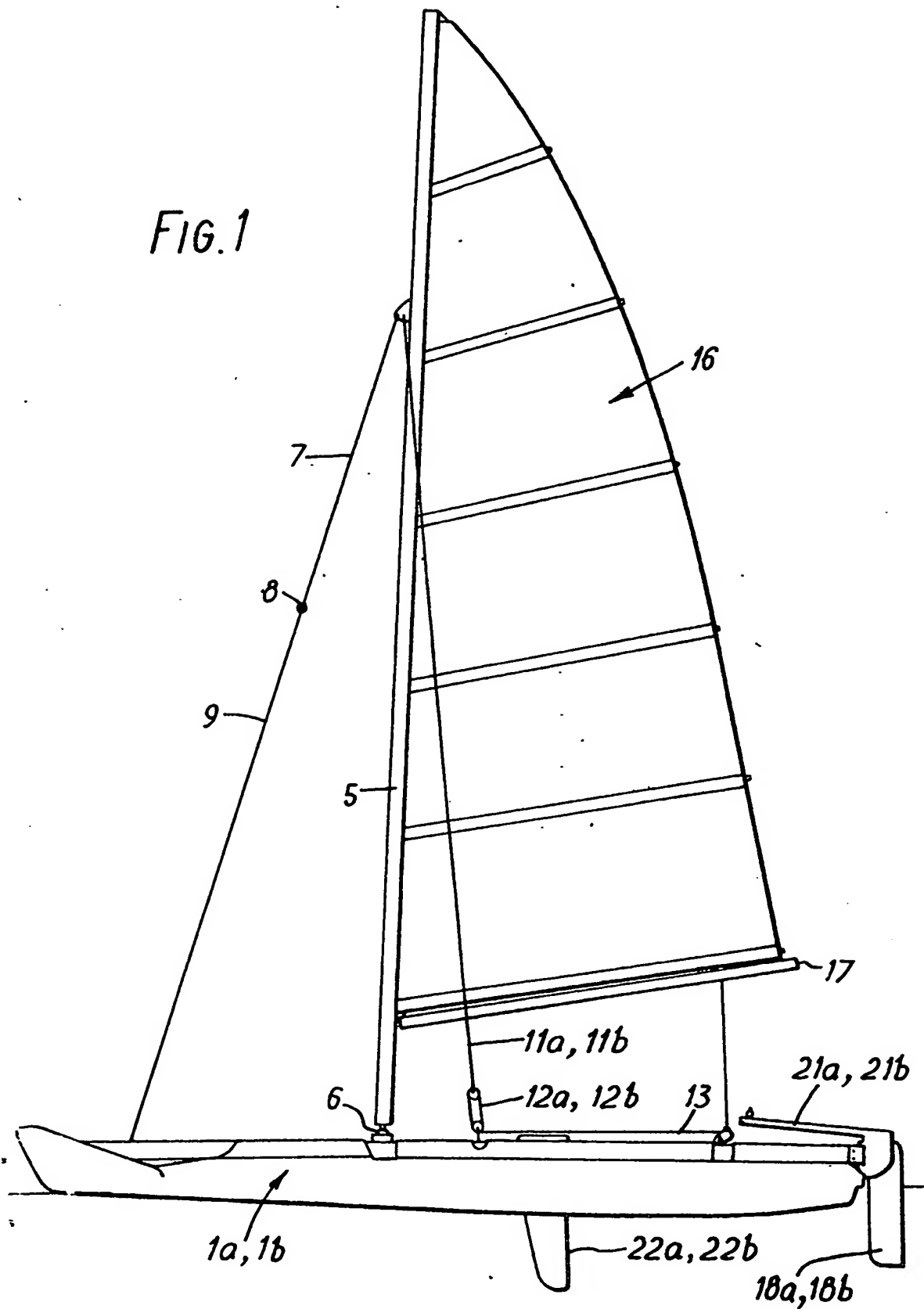
Interconnected by a line 13 rove through both assemblies and passing through a point accessible to the sailor. By moving the line 13 along its path in a selected direction, one assembly 11 is shortened and the other lengthened. The mast 5 is thus laterally tilted as required.



The drawings originally filed were informal and the print here reproduced is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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FIG. 1



SPECIFICATION

Sailing boats

This invention relates to sailing boats.

- According to the present invention there is
5 provided a sailing boat having a sail-supporting
mast the lateral tilt of which is adjustable
whenever required during sailing.

- Conveniently, the mast is laterally stayed by
shrouds which include means of selectively
10 shortening one shroud and correspondingly
lengthening the other. Advantageously, each
shroud includes a block and tackle around which is
rove a line passing from one block and tackle to
the other through a position which is accessible to
15 the sailor and which preferably includes a
clamping device.

An embodiment of the invention will now be
described by way of example with reference to the
accompanying drawings in which:—

- 20 Figure 1 is a side-elevation of a catamaran and
Figure 2 is a plan-view of the catamaran shown
in Figure 1.

- The drawings show a catamaran having twin
hulls 1a and 1b joined by two cross-members 2
and 3 and having a trampoline deck 4 attached to
25 the hulls and cross-members.

- A mast 5 is stepped by means of a ball and
socket support 6 on the forward cross-member 3.
An upper fore-stay 7 is attached at one end to the
mast and at its other end to a pulley block 8. A
30 lower fore-stay 9 passes from one hull to the other
around the pulley of the pulley block 8.

- Two shroud-lines 11a and 11b are fixed to the
mast at their upper ends and each is fixed at its
35 lower end to the upper block of a respective six-
rope block and tackle forming the lower part of the
respective shroud 12a, 12b. A line 13 is fixed at
one end to the upper block of the block and tackle
12a, passes around pulleys 14a and 14b,
40 mounted on the respective hulls, then around the
pulleys of the block and tackle 12b and its other
end is secured to the upper block of the block and
tackle 12b. The lower block of each block and
tackle 12a and 12b is secured to the respective
45 hulls 1a and 1b. A clamping device 15 allows the
line to be clamped at any required position of the
line to the aft cross-member 2.

- The mast 5 carries a sail 16 and a boom 17 in
the conventional manner. A rudder 18a, 18b is
50 mounted at the stern end of each respective hull
1a and 1b. A bar 19 joins the tillers 21a and 21b
of the respective rudders 18a and 18b. Each hull is
fitted with a retractable dagger-board 22a and
22b, respectively.

- 55 In operation, the lateral tilt of the mast can be
adjusted during sailing. For this, the clamping
device 15 is released and the line 13 is drawn
around the pulleys 14a and 14b in one or the
other direction. The mast tilts on the ball and
60 socket support 6 to the side from which the line
13 is drawn. By tilting the mast into the wind the
mast can be more nearly upright when the
catamaran is heeling than would otherwise be the
case. As a result, spillage of wind from the sail can
65 be reduced and by tilting the mast into the wind
some lift can be exerted on the catamaran thereby
reducing the area of hull-surface in contact with
water and thereby reducing the resistance to
forward motion.

- 70 In a modification (not shown) the pulleys 14a
and 14b are replaced by a single pulley adjacent
the clamping device 15. The line 13 passes
directly from the lower block of each block and
tackle 12a, 12b to the pulley and a clamping
75 device in the centre of the aft cross-member 2.
The pulley may then be resiliently biased in the
aft direction to provide the required tension for the
line 13 and thus for the shrouds.

CLAIMS

- 80 1. A sailing boat comprising a hull structure a
mast adjustably mounted on the hull structure and
means operable during sailing of the boat for
adjusting lateral tilt of the mast relative to the
boat.

- 85 2. A sailing boat according to claim 1 having
shrouds laterally staying in the mast, from each
side, in which the adjusting means comprise
means for selectively shortening one of the
shrouds and correspondingly lengthening the
90 other of the shrouds.

3. A sailing boat according to claim 2, in which
each said shroud includes a block and tackle
means comprising a pair of pulley blocks and a
line extending along a path interconnecting the
95 pairs of pulley blocks and being rove around the
pulley blocks of each pair, the said path including
a portion accessible to the user of the boat.

4. A sailing boat according to claim 3 and
including releasable clamping means for the line
100 at the accessible portion.

5. A sailing boat according to claim 3 or 4 and
including a ball and socket joint mounting the
mast on the hull structure and forestay means
interconnecting an upper part of the mast with a
105 foreward part of the hull structure.

6. A sailing boat substantially as hereinbefore
described with reference to the accompanying
drawings.